

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 04977 091327Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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R 091253Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3068
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4977

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PORG, MO, UN, SS
SUBJ: MOROCCAN POSITION ON PROPOSED OAU EXTRAORDINARY SAHARA
SUMMIT AT LUSAKA

REF: RABAT 4936 (NOTAL)

1. AS NOTED REFTTEL, FONMIN LARAKI GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN
LIBREVILLE SEPT. 7 ADDRESSING FOR THE FIRST TIME THE QUESTION OF
THE PROPOSED LUSAKA SUMMIT ON THE SAHARA. ACCORDING TO THE
OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY MAP STORY ON THE CONFERENCE, LARAKI RAISED
BOTH PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTIONS TO THE HOLDING OF THE
CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH HE SAID MOROCCO WOULD ATTEND IF ITS CONDITIONS
WERE MET. TWO OF THESE CONDITIONS WERE THE ATTAINMENT OF A TWO-
THIRDS QUORUM, WHICH HE INSISTED HAD BEEN PART OF THE LIBREVILLE
AGREEMENT, AND THAT THE OAU FIND A WAY TO FINANCE THE CONFERENCE,
RATHER THAN ALGERIA AND "OTHERS" WHO ARE FINANCING POLISARIO.

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PAGE 02 RABAT 04977 091327Z

ANOTHER CONDITION WAS THAT MOROCCO WOULD ON ACCEPT ELECTED SAHARAN
REPS AS PARTICIPANTS. POLISARIO WOULD BE EXCLUDED, AS THE OAU
DID NOT RECOGNIZE IT EITHER AS A MEMBER OR AS A LEGITIMATE
LIBERATION MOVEMENT. LARAKI ALSO COMPLAINED THAT OAU SECGEN
ETEKI HAD VIOLATED THE LIBREVILLE AGREEMENTS FOR THE EXTRA-
ORDINARY SUMMIT BY BYPASSING PRESIDENT BONGO.

2. A SEPARATE MAP ITEM QUOTED "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES" IN LIBREVILLE AS STATING THAT THE GABONESE FONMIN HAD SENT A LETTER TO ETEKI ON AUGUST 27 CALLING ATTENTION TO THE NEED TO CONSULT WITH OAU MEMBERS TO FIX A SUMMIT DATE AND THEN TO INFORM THE OAU PRESIDENT OF THE RESULTS OF THESE CONSULTATIONS SO THAT THE LATTER COULD CONVOKE THE SUMMIT. ETEKI WAS ACCUSED OF HAVING IGNORED THIS ORDER AND, WITHOUT INFORMING BONGO, UNILATERALLY CONVOKING THE SUMMIT IN VIOLATION OF BOTH THE OAU CHARTER AND THE PROCEDURES AGREED UPON AT LIBREVILLE.

3. COMMENT: MOROCCO HAS THUS THROWN THE GAUNTLET BEFORE THOSE PUSHING FOR THE ETEKI PROPOSED OCTOBER 5-10 MEETING. EVEN SHOULD THE QUORUM AND FINANCING QUESTIONS BE RESOLVED TO MOROCCO'S SATISFACTION, THE GOM HAS NOW RAISED PUBLICLY A FURTHER CONTENTIOUS QUESTION BY POSING STIFF CONDITION ON THE "SAHARA PEOPLES" ISSUE. THE GOM OBVIOUSLY HOPES TO EXCLUDE POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD THE CONFERENCE EVER CONVENE, SOMETHING WHICH THE GOM CONTINUES TO HOPE WILL NOT HAPPEN.
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Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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